

FILED JB
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DATE OF 12-19-00 Response Due
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
05/548,213	04/12/00	PLATONIA	122.1203-RE

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MM71/0919

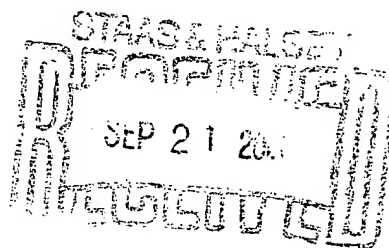
EXAMINER
TIRRETS, P

ART UNIT 2838	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 09/19/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/548,213

Applicant(s)

Matsuda et al.

Examiner

Pia Tibbits

Group Art Unit

2838



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

☐ This action is FINAL.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-117 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-117 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

☒ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) 08/578,805.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2, 3

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in answer to the reissue application filed April 12, 2000.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informality: "detector" should be replaced by --- detectors--- in lines 4, 7, 11. . Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 11-117 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narita [5465039].

Narita discloses an electronic apparatus 30 connected to an AC adapter 20 through a rectifying circuit 102, and through two power lines 22 and 28 and a control signal line 62, and a battery 40 connected to the electronic device 30 through two power lines 42 and 44 and a control signal line 56. A power management processor 60 obtains information about the battery voltage from the output signal of the battery voltage detecting amplifier 52, and prevents a charging current from flowing into the battery by turning off switch 38 if it is determined that the battery voltage is outside a predetermined range. The power management processor 60 obtains information about the battery current from the output signal of the battery current detecting amplifier 48, and calculates the remaining capacity of a battery based on the information. An adder-subtractor 150 receives input from a current detection resistance 114, and inputs from reference voltage generating circuits 151 and 152, and provides output through differential amplifier 120. The charging current to the battery is varied according to the variation of power consumption of load

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on the electronic device by providing constant power feedback from the feedback circuit section 400 to the control means so as to cause a constant power or a nearly constant power (a value assigned in advance), based on a voltage feedback value and a current feedback value.

Narita does not specifically disclose a charger, that the pre-assigned value is a maximum permissible supply power of the AC adapter, and that the connector receives DC power from the AC adapter.

Narita states that the power supply apparatus provides charge to the battery (column 2, lines 42-45), therefore charging is considered to be an inherent function of his apparatus.

With respect to claims 14, 19, 24, 91, 95, 99, 104, 108, 112: the pre-assigned value being a maximum permissible supply power of the AC adapter, absent any criticality, is only considered to be the use of an "optimum" or "preferred" AC adapter component that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made using routine experimentation would have found obvious to provide for the power supply device disclosed by Narita, since it has been held to be a matter of obvious design choice and within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known component on the basis of its suitability for the intended use of the invention. See *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416.

With respect to claims 11, 50-52, 68-70, and 86-88 : the connector receiving DC power from the AC adapter, even though not specifically mentioned by Narita, it is considered to be an inherent function of his apparatus in view of component 102, a rectifying circuit.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner

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to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The information disclosure statement filed August 1, 2000 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because it does not include for all references the month of publication. Correction is required.

6. The information disclosure statement filed August 1, 2000 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for reference 5 listed in the "Foreign Patent Documents" section because it does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56© most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent listed that is not in the English language. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-10 allowed. None of the references of record prior to applicant's filing date discloses, teaches or suggests the specific combination of the first, second, and third current detectors as claimed in independent claims 1, 3, and 9.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art cited in PTO-892 and not mentioned above disclose related apparatus.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Pia Tibbits whose telephone number is (703) 308-7305. If unavailable, contact the Supervisory Patent Examiner Peter Wong whose telephone number is (703) 305-3477.

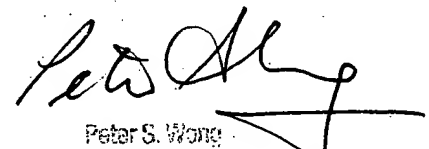
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10. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications **only** may be submitted to Technology Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 308-7722 or (703) 308-7724.

PFT

August 10, 2000



Peter S. Wong
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center